

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11871 021918Z

62

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-20 EB-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SWF-02 SAJ-01 IO-14 COME-00 DRC-01

NIC-01 /151 W

----- 082390

R 021102Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1305

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

EC BRUSSELS 642

UNCLAS MOSCOW 11871

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: E/AGR

SUBJECT: USSR: INCLEMENT WEATHER DELAYING SOVIET HARVEST

DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE

1. INCLEMENT WEATHER WHICH DOMINATED SOVIET UNION HAS PRODUCED WIDESPREAD LODGING AND DELAYS IN THIS YEAR'S HARVEST. CONSEQUENTLY PROSPECTS FOR ANOTHER RECORD GRAIN HARVEST ARE SOMEWHAT DIMMER THAN ORIGINALLY HOPED FOR BY THE SOVIET PLANNERS.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MOSCOW 11871 021918Z

2. THIS YEAR'S HARVEST IN THE SOVIET UNION IS NOT ONLY

LATE COMPARED WITH THE 1973 LEVELS BUT HAS ALSO BEEN SLOW IN PICKING UP SPEED AND DEVELOPING INTO WHAT COULD BE CALLED "HARVEST IN FULL SWING." THE DELAYS ENCOUNTERED AT PRESENT BEGAN DURING THE SPRING, WHICH ALTHOUGH IT ARRIVED EARLY DID NOT STABILIZE AND PERMIT SOWING OF SPRING GRAINS AND COMPLETION OF OTHER FIELD WORK DURING OPTIMAL TIME. CONSEQUENTLY SOWING OF SPRING CROPS REPORTEDLY WAS COMPLETED ON JUNE 10, SOME SEVEN TO 10 DAYS LATER THAN USUAL.

3. THE UNSTABLE WEATHER THAT DOMINATED THE SPRING GRAIN AREAS IN THE EUROPEAN USSR ALSO HAD A NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF WINTER GRAINS DURING THE APRIL-JUNE PERIOD. THE GENERALLY WEAKENED WINTER GRAINS, DUE TO UNFAVORABLE WINTER CONDITIONS AND EARLY FALL SHORTAGES OF MOISTURE, CONTINUED THEIR SPRING DEVELOPMENT UNDER ADVERSE CLIMATIC CONDITIONS. THE END RESULT WAS SLOWED GROWTH, AND UNEVEN RIPENING OF BOTH WINTER AND SPRING GRAINS WHICH CURRENTLY ARE HOLDING BACK AND DELAYING THE HARVEST.

4. SINCE THE START OF THE HARVEST IN JULY WEATHER HAS CONTINUED TO BE UNSTABLE, CHANGING FROM SUNSHINE TO RAIN ALMOST DAILY. THE RAINS WHICH IN MOST INSTANCES HAVE BEEN REPORTED AS HEAVY DOWNPOURS WERE OFTEN ACCOMPANIED BY STRONG WINDS AND IN MANY AREAS DESCRIBED AS HAVING TORNADO FORCE. CONSEQUENTLY EXTENSIVE LODGING OF GRAINS WAS REPORTED IN MANY AREAS WHERE GRAINS WERE READY TO BE HARVESTED.

5. ALTHOUGH MANY SUCCESS STORIES HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN THE PRESS, BOTH IN TERMS OF HIGH WORK PERFORMANCE BY INDIVIDUAL COMBINERS AS WELL AS IN HARVESTING RECORD HIGH YIELDS, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THIS YEAR'S HARVEST IN THE SOVIET UNION THUS FAR IS BOGGING DOWN UNDER RAINY WEATHER AND WIDESPREAD LODGING. IN ORDER TO PREVENT FURTHER LODGING VAST AREAS ARE BEING WIND-ROWED WITH THE HOPE FOR IMPROVED WEATHER AND A CHANCE TO THRESH. CONSEQUENTLY THE GAP BETWEEN THE GRAINS CUT AND THE GRAINS THRESHED CONTINUED TO WIDEN

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MOSCOW 11871 021918Z

THROUGHOUT THE FIRST MONTH OF THIS YEAR'S HARVEST. AS OF JULY 29 26.1 MILLION HECTARES REPORTEDLY WERE CUT OF WHICH 15.5 MILLION WERE THRESHED. THIS WAS 80 AND 67 PERCENT RESPECTIVELY OF LAST YEAR'S LEVEL.
STOESSEL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, METEOROLOGICAL DATA
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW11871
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740211-0973
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740879/aaaacptv.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAY 2002 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <03 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: USSR: INCLEMENT WEATHER DELAYING SOVIET HARVEST DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE
TAGS: EAGR, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005